

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Prior to this Amendment, Claims 1-3 and 5-27 were pending in the Application.

5 Claim 4 has been previously canceled. All pending claims have been rejected.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-11, 14-16, 18-20, 22-23 and 25-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Furtado et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,281,789 (Furtado). Claims 2-3, 8, 12-13, 17, 21 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Furtado.

10 Independent claims 1 and 22 have been canceled in favor of new claims 28 and 34. Dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 23 and 24 have been amended to properly claim dependency from, and to conform to the language of, their new respective base claims.

New dependent claims 29-33 and 34-39 have been added.

15 Furtado discloses a command signal that "controls" an audible alarm, by commanding the alarm to turn on or turn off. The command signal selects a particular temporal pattern, such as a temporal cadence or march time. Furtado, column 4, lines 5-16.

The claimed invention, on the other hand, is a building fire alarm system which includes both a control panel and a notification appliance. The control panel sends, over
20 a communication path such as a pair of lines (wires) or a notification appliance circuit, a remote control signal to the notification appliance.

The notification appliance includes: a communication receiver which receives the remote control signal; an alarm generator which generates the sound indicated by the remote control signal; and a transducer which broadcasts the generated sound.

25 The notification appliance is capable of generating a plurality of distinct sounds. The remote control signal sent by the control panel indicates which of the available sounds the notification appliance is to generate. For example, a single notification appliance might be capable of producing both a bell sound and a whoop sound. Furthermore, each distinct sound is indicative of a distinct alarm condition. For example,
30 a bell sound may indicate a fire, while a whoop sound indicates a hazardous weather condition, *e.g.*, a tornado. Specification as filed, page 1, lines 6-9.

None of the references that have been cited against this application, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a building fire alarm system ***notification appliance capable of generating a plurality of distinct sounds*** (as distinguished from different temporal patterns), ***a remote control signal sent by the control panel that indicates which of the available sounds the notification appliance is to generate***, and that ***each distinct sound is indicative of a distinct alarm condition***.

In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of new independent claims 28 and 34. Allowance of dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 23 and 24 as amended herein should follow. Allowance of new dependent claims 29-33 and 35-39 should also follow.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (978) 731-7244.

Respectfully submitted,

By Gerald M. Bluhm
Gerald M. Bluhm, Esq.
Registration No. 44,035
Telephone: (978) 731-7244
Facsimile: (978) 246-6336

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